## BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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W. B. EWALT et al.,

Complainants,

-VS-

CASE NO. 1159

MIDLAND COUNTIES PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATION,

Defendant.

Louis Cohen for Complainants W. A. Sutherland and Murray Bourne for Defendant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

## OPINION

This is a proceeding brought by W. B. Ewalt and 125 other residents of that portion of San Luis Obispo County known as the Atascadero Colony, against the Midland Counties Public Service Corporation, in

which the complainants ask that the defendant be ordered to supply them with electric service.

A hearing was held before Examiner Encell at Atascadero on December 21st, 1917, and Decision No. 5202 issued under date of March 13th, 1918 ordered defendant to serve complainants with electric energy within sixty days thereof.

On May 8th, 1918 defendant filed a petition asking that the case be reopened, and, in response to this request, a second hearing was held in Atascadero before Exeminer Encell on June 20th, 1918.

At this hearing defendant submitted testimony to support its contention that it was unable, due to the existing war conditions, to obtain the money necessary for this extension, that great difficulty was being experienced in obtaining materials, that there was imminent danger of a serious shortage of power because of the subnormal rainfall of the previous winter, and, lastly, that defendant had many other prior applications for service for more essential purposes.

In consideration of the abnormal economic conditions obtaining at the time of the second hearing, the Commission has seen fit to hold this matter in abeyance until the present. In view of recent developments, to-wit, the signing of the armistice on November 11th, 1918, and the rapid return of the country to a peace basis since that date, we believe that it is only fair that applicants now receive the electric service for which they have waited so long.

## ORDER

W. B. Ewalt and others having filed with this Commission a complaint against the Midland Counties Public Service Corporation, the matter having been decided, the Midland Counties Public Service Corporation having petitioned for a further hearing, the same having been granted, and the hearing having been held and the Commission finding that defendant should now extend its electric distribution lines in that portion of San Luis Obispo County known as the Atascadero Colony,

land Counties Public Service Corporation, be and the same is hereby ordered within sixty days from the date of this order, to serve with electric energy the persons desiring the same, residing in that portion of Sam Luis Obispo County known as the Atascadero Colony as delineated in Exhibit "A" attached to the complaint herein, which exhibit is hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this

24th day of December, 1918.

Commissioners.